

15. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

16. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

17. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

A2 18. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

19. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

20. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the fiber optic network includes a closed loop optical fiber, one of the first-mentioned nodes and at least one of the second nodes coupled to the closed loop optical fiber.

REMARKS

Clean copies of the amended claims are enclosed on a separate sheet. With the entry of the foregoing amendments, the application is believed to be in condition for examination and allowance. Consideration of the claims, leading to their allowance and passage of the application to issuance, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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